NATURAL NEWS

The Field Museum
Exploring
The Earth And Its
People

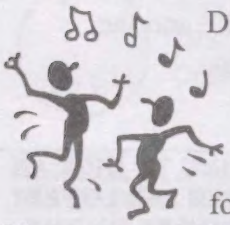
WEEKLY STAFF NEWSLETTER
April 3, 1998

IT'S WILD IN CHICAGO!

1998 Festival -- April 4-7

The Education Department invites Museum staff and volunteers to take the opportunity to participate in the festivities celebrating Earth Month. The festival is an interactive forum to learn about Chicago's natural resources through demonstrations, performances and activities. To plan ahead, check page 7 of the March/April *In the Field* for the schedule of events or pick up a daily program. Don't miss it!

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA DISCOUNT COUPONS!



Discount coupons are now available in the Human Resources Department for savings on admission for up to eight people. You can receive **$15 OFF** performances on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. This discount is only valid until April 29. We have a limited amount of tickets and they will be distributed on a first-come basis. So come enjoy the savings and check out The Opera.

Exercise Class begins again on Tuesday, April 7 at 5:15 p.m. in Geology Hall.

NSF WORKSHOP FOR PEET PARTICIPANTS MEET AT WOODS HOLE

The National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored the second workshop for scientists and their trainees supported by the PEET initiative (Partnership for Enhancing Expertise in Taxonomy) at Woods Hole in Massachusetts. **Sabine Huhndorf, Greg Mueller, Fernando Fernandez,** and **Andrew Mi**ller (Botany/Mycology) and **Petra Sierwald** and her graduate **student Marius van der Merwe** (Zoology/Insects), were active participants. Sabine demonstrated how to capture, manipulate, and publish digital images in the workshop on computer applications. Sabine and the rest of her team presented a poster on their research results. This poster also was used as a demonstration of "modern" poster fabrication since it was completely computer-generated. The workshop concentrated on the three components of PEET grants -- monographs, student training, and innovative methods for disseminating information. There was a lot of discussion on electronic publication, and the NSF program officers reiterated that web-based, CD Rom, or other types of electronic publications are mandatory for the program. They also emphasized that such non-print dissemination will increasingly be emphasized across the board at NSF (Biotic Surveys and Inventories already have this

stipulation). It is likely that funding will be available for another PEET competition, with a probable target date of 1 March 1999.

HERSHKOVITZ LIBRARY EN ROUTE TO PERU

The Division of Mammals shipped scientific journals from the library of the late Curator Emeritus **Philip Hershkovitz** to Lima, Peru. The scientific journals were duplicates of those held by the Museum's General Library. Contained in forty-three boxes totaling 1192 pounds, the journals include complete sets of such key journals as Journal of Mammalogy, Mammalia, Acta Theriologica, Evolution, Systematic Biology, American Journal of Primatology, and many others. They are being donated to the Museo de Historia Natural, University de San Marcos, on-going collaborators of **Bruce Patterson** and **Phil Parrillo** (Zoology), **Robin Foster** (Botany), and **Doug Stotz** and **Tom Schulenberg** (ECP). Arrangements for shipping the collection to Lima and all out-of-pocket expenses were borne by friends at the Midwest Association of Peruvian Institutions, especially its president, Fernando Pineda.

Congratulations!

To **Matt Matcuk** (former Campaign staff member) and Simone Gaiownik on the birth of their daughter Eva Matcuk Gaiownik on February 3, 1998.

More Stars Than the Oscars: Wadhwa Attends Lunar and Planetary Science Conference

Meenakshi Wadhwa, Assistant Curator of Meteoritics in the Geology Department, just returned from the Annual Lunar and Planetary Science Conference at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. Highlights of the meeting included the latest results from several of NASA's spacecraft missions, such as the Mars Pathfinder, the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR) mission, the Galileo mission to Jupiter and Europa, and the Lunar Prospector. Meenakshi presented a talk on her recent work on the age dating of a primitive class of meteorites, which showed that these meteorites may be the oldest products of melting on asteroids. She also presented two posters on ongoing collaborative projects with colleagues at Washington University and the University of Chicago.

ARE YOU PLANNING TO HIRE AN INTERN or SUMMER EMPLOYEE? WILL THIS PERSON BE ON THE MUSEUM'S PAYROLL?

If you answered, "**yes**," to these questions, then you need to **complete a position requisition** form. This is the form used to approve the hiring process. Please take the time **now** to complete the form for your position/s. The Human Resources Department wants to ensure that all of the proper paperwork has been completed so there are no delays in your original hiring plan. If you have a question, please contact us (x 356). Thank you for your cooperation!

PARKING UPDATE

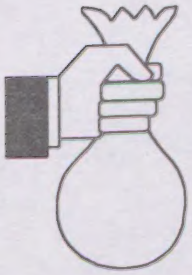
West Lot - Weekend Staff Parking Changes

Due to a significant increase in weekend west lot utilization, it has become apparent that we can no longer accommodate volunteers, staff and reserved parking requests. As a result, effective Saturday, April 5, day shift staff must park in the Museum East lot on weekends as well as weekdays. The evening and night shifts may continue to use the west lot, and day shift staff who will be working late may move their vehicles after 4:00 p.m.

East Lot - Parking Schedule

The Staff Parking schedule for the Museum East Lot and the Soldier Field lot will be as follows:

Winter Schedule: Museum East Lot - October 1 through April 30.
Summer Schedule: Soldier Field Lot - May 1 through September 30.



Do you have direct deposit?

Before you close your bank accounts, STOP AND THINK! You must notify Payroll/Human Resources first! If you do not do this, your paycheck will be sitting in limbo and you will not receive your paycheck until the next paydate! If you have any questions, please call **Doris** (x220) or **Maria** (x289).

FIELDING BOOKS

The first get-acquainted meeting for our new staff book club will be held **Wednesday, April 8 in Conference Room I from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m.** All staff are welcome to attend. Please bring along your suggestions and ideas so we can create a book club where we can all share our love of books. – **Loraine Petkus** (x214)

The *Natural News* is edited by Carolyn Klyce in the President's Office (x642). The deadline for submissions is Tuesday at noon. Please submit via email to cklyce@fmnh.org.

WELCOME!

Staff who began their employment in February

Elisa Aguilar	Anthropology	Exhibit Projects Assistant
Fletcher Allison	Security	Security Officer I
Joanne Avery	Geology	Fossil Preparator
David Beamer	Zoology/Reptiles	Collection Assistant
April Blazevic	Exhibits	Artifact Handler
Christopher Brochu	Geology	Post-Doc Research Scientist
Sara Foster	Botany	Collection Assistant/Mycology
Christina Halperin	Anthropology	Data Entry Assistant
Kristofer Jadd	ECP	Chicago Wilderness Assistant
Koyo Konishi	Exhibits	Exhibit Preparator
Jane Long	ECP	Mighty Acorns Program Coord.
Rebecca Merlo	Anthropology	Data Entry Assistant
Maria Pozos	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Representative
Roger Reichard	FP&O	Engineering Assistant
Ken Rose	ECP	Biodiversity Explorers Project Dir.
Mark Schmeltzer	Development	Campaign Writer
Bruce Schumacher	Geology	Fossil Preparator
Sheryl Sokoloski	Zoology/Inverts.	Technical Assistant
Carrie Woods	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Representative

WELCOME BACK!

Staff who were rehired during February

Thomas Anton	Zoology/Reptiles	Collection Assistant
Rodger Patience	Development	Coordinator, Development Services

CONGRATULATIONS!

Staff who were promoted or changed positions in February

	From	To
Michele Eck	Collection Assistant/Mycology	Collection Assistant/Botany
Paul Brinkman	Collections Mngmt Assistant	Fossil Preparator
Judy Burns	Senior Accountant	Audit/Accounting Administrator
Laura Dini	Admin. Assistant/ECP	Admin. Assistant/Public Relations

GOODBYE AND BEST WISHES!

Staff who ended employment in February

Richard Bermingham	Vending	Vending Assistant
Jennifer Crodian	Botany	Research Assistant/Micro Biologist
20 yrs.-Norman Hammond	Security	Security Officer III
George Murray	Botany	Collections Assistant
Brian Pearson	Visitor Services	Visitor Services Representative